

NAYI is a week full of personal growth, career development and friendship. After my experience at NAYI, it became clear to me the importance of our job as young agriculturalists to defend and promote the industry that feeds and fuels the world.

Rebel Sjeklocha, Hayes Center
2017 Delegate

At NAYI, I've witnessed students accept the challenges we face in the agricultural industry. Seeing students find their own passions within the ag industry and taking the first steps to make a difference is the reason we NAYC members do what we do.

Eric Leisy, Wisner
Current NAYC Member

NAYI changed my life. It helped me find my passion and my path for the future. One week of NAYI gave me the confidence to go for what I wanted for myself and made me believe I could make an impact on agriculture.

Maisie Kennicutt, Elsie
2017 Delegate

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NAYI?

For more information, contact:

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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NAYI 2018

July 9-13, 2018



Applications due April 15

For 47 years, the **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's (NAYC)** main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska's youth. The NAYC consists of 21 college-age men and women who have dedicated their time and energy to educating youth about agriculture. The Council is selected annually to serve a one-year term. Membership is limited to three years.

Throughout their year, the NAYC participates in an array of agricultural programs including the Governor's Ag Conference, Elementary Classroom Visits, National Ag Week, Urban Youth Farm Tour, the Nebraska State FFA Convention, as well as their premier event, the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI). All of these events give Council members a chance to learn more about agricultural opportunities available right here in Nebraska, as well as share their knowledge with the youth of this great state. The Council also holds an annual Industry Tour, which gives members the opportunity to learn more about Nebraska's diverse agricultural industry.



Front, from left: Hannah Borg, Sage Williams, Cheyenne Gerlach, Emily Frenzen, Hannah Settje, Courtney Nelson.

Middle: Amanda Kowalewski, Ryan Schroeder, Grant Dahlgren, Collin Thompson, Collin Swedberg, Hunter Schroeder, Logan Kalkowski.

Back: Jace Beck, Brent Miller, Matthew Morton, Jacob Schlick, Grant Suddarth, Cooper Grabenstein, Eric Leisy, Kevin Sousek.



Forty-seven years ago, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture realized it had to do something about the ever-increasing problem of young people leaving the farms and ranches of Nebraska.

The idea of an Institute to expose young people to the opportunities available in agriculture was tried for the first time in 1972. The original **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute** program was developed through cooperation between the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and 18 college-age young men and women who formed the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council which now carries on the NAYC tradition of passion for the agricultural industry.

The delegates are what make NAYI what it is. Their enthusiasm and genuine interest make the week an unforgettable experience. Delegates are chosen through an application process highlighting their interest, involvement, leadership and achievement in agriculture. These delegates have the opportunities to share their ideas with local, state and national speakers, along with young people from all across Nebraska.

Funding for NAYC activities comes from the former Rural Rehabilitation Corporation. These funds have been invested and the interest drawn from them is released to programs.

Agricultural businesses and commodity organizations graciously sponsor the vast majority of the expenses for NAYI.

Just as agriculture is an ever-changing industry, NAYI is an ever-changing program, keeping pace with today's agriculture. Even though the program is constantly being developed, the original goal will remain the same – to keep Nebraskans involved and interested in agriculture.

"NAYI is one of the greatest professional conferences for young people interested in agriculture. The connections and information shared at NAYI are lifelong and impactful."

Lukas Fricke, Ulysses
2017 Speaker and former NAYI Delegate